

OADBY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCILANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTHfor the year 1940

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my second Annual Report on the health of your District.

The Ministry of Health have again requested that reports should be as brief as possible, and I have accordingly included only those matters which are necessary for the maintenance and continuity in the records of the district. For other matters reference should be made to my Annual Report for the year 1939 when a more detailed summary was given of the health and sanitary services of the area.

STATISTICS OF THE AREA

Area (in acres)	...	...	...	4,083
Population, Registrar General's estimate, 1940.	...	...	...	5,719
Comparability factor	...	...	...	0.98
No. of inhabited houses (end of 1940) according to the Rate Books	...	...	...	1,712
Rateable value 1st April, 1940	...	...	...	£43,789
Sum represented by a penny rate	...	...	...	£172

VITAL STATISTICS  
(for explanations see page 4)

Births.

Assigned to the area of the mother's usual residence.

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Live Births			
Legitimate	36	32	68
Illegitimate	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>
Total	37	34	71
Stillbirths			
Legitimate	1	0	1
Illegitimate	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1</u>
Total	2	0	2

Assigned to the area of the mother's temporary residence.

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Live Births			
Legitimate	87	82	169
Illegitimate	<u>1</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>
Total	88	85	173
Stillbirths			
Legitimate	1	1	2
Illegitimate	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1</u>
Total	2	1	3

Birth Rate per thousand estimated resident population 1940 12.4

Birth Rate for England and Wales 1940 14.6

Stillbirths - Rate per thousand total (live and stillbirths) 27

<u>Deaths.</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
	39	21	60

Death Rate per thousand estimated population 10.5

Standardised Death Rate 10.3

Death Rate for England and Wales 14.3

<u>Deaths from Puerperal Causes</u>	Deaths	Rate per 1,000 total live and stillbirths
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Puerperal Sepsis Nil Nil

Other Puerperal Causes Nil Nil

Puerperal Mortality Rate for England and Wales 2.16

Deaths of Infants under one year of age 4

Infantile Mortality rate per 1,000 live births 23

There were no deaths of illegitimate infants during the year.

# Causes of Death

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Heart Disease.....	8	7	15
Bronchitis.....	3	5	8
Cancer.....	2	2	4
Pneumonia (all forms).....	4	0	4
Other Circulatory Diseases....	3	1	4
Cerebral Vascular Lesions.....	1	2	3
Tuberculosis (all forms).....	3	0	3
Other digestive diseases.....	2	0	2
Peptic or duodenal ulcer.....	2	0	2
Other violence.....	2	0	2
Congenital causes.....	1	0	1
Premature birth.....	1	0	1
Influenza.....	1	0	1
Nephritis.....	1	0	1
Syphilitic diseases.....	0	1	1
Suicide.....	1	0	1
Diabetes.....	0	0	0
Road Traffic Accidents.....	0	0	0
Other respiratory diseases....	0	0	0
Infantile diarrhoea.....	0	0	0
Cerebro spinal fever.....	0	0	0
Diphtheria, Scarlet fever.....	0	0	0
Whooping cough, Measles.....	0	0	0
Other infectious diseases.....	0	0	0
Puerperal causes.....	0	0	0
Other causes.....	<u>4</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>7</u>
Total	39	21	60



## VITAL STATISTICS DURING WAR TIME

The presence of a substantial proportion of the population in H.M. armed forces, and the transference of large sections of the community from evacuation areas to reception areas has created considerable difficulty in the maintenance of accurate statistical records in such a manner as to be comparable as far as possible with pre-war years.

The following changes have been made by the Registrar General commencing on October 1st, 1939.

1. Deaths in all males serving in H.M. armed forces are not included in local statistics but will be published as a separate class in the annual reports of the Registrar General.

2. In the case of a person dying who is temporarily residing away from home on account of the war, or in the case of a person dying in an institution, the death is assigned to the area of temporary residence and is not transferred to the area of the person's usual residence.

3. Births, for the purposes of calculating birth rates, are still transferred to the area of the mother's usual residence according to the pre-war practice.

For the purposes of calculating infant and maternal mortality, however, a second series of birth statistics is employed in which all births are assigned to the area in which the mother may be temporarily residing as a result of the war.

### SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

I am indebted to the sanitary inspector Mr. G.E. Fryer, for the following details.

#### Water Supply, Drainage and Sewage.

There have been no changes of importance in these services. Arrangements are being made for an auxiliary electric pump to be added to the Stoughton Lane sewer ejector chamber to relieve congestion of the Stoughton Lane Sewer.

#### Public Cleansing and Salvage.

Particular attention is being paid to the collection of salvage including paper, cardboard, rags, bones, metals and waste food. Bins for the collection of waste kitchen food have been placed in the streets.

## Closet Accommodation

Total numbers in district on December 31st, 1940.

(a) Privies	-	Nil
(b) Pail Closets	-	34
(c) Water Closets	-	1,713

## Sanitary Inspection of the Area

Total No. of complaints received during the year	22
" " " premises visited	529
" " " defects or nuisances discovered	109
" " " notices served - Informal 100, Statutory Nil	100
" " " " complied with " 102, " Nil	102
" " " summons issued	Nil

## Eradication of Bed Bugs

No. of dwelling houses found infested	Nil
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## Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the year.

(1) (a) Total no. of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts ) ... ..	109
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	162
(2) (a) Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925 and 1932	Nil
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	Nil
(3) Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ... ..	Nil
(4) Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceeding sub-head) found to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	9
(5) Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or its Officers ... ..	9
(6) Number of defective dwelling houses in respect of which action under statutory powers was taken	Nil
(7) (a) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year ... ..	Nil
(b) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year ... ..	3
(c) Number of persons concerned in these cases	24
(8) Number of houses erected during 1940	
(a) By Council ... ..	Nil
(b) By private enterprise ... ..	10



## INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

### Milk:-

Retailers:-	No. on Register	22
(other than	No. of inspections of premises	10
cowkeepers)	No. of contraventions found	Nil
Producers:-	No. on Register	17
(including	No. of inspections made	16
those who	No. of contraventions found	Nil
retail milk)	Two contraventions found during 1939	
	have been remedied.	

### Meat and Other Foods

All slaughter houses in the district are now closed and are only used for the purpose of slaughter under exceptional conditions.

163 animals have been slaughtered in the district during the year, and 53 of these carcasses were inspected. None were condemned.

On one occasion tainted meat was found to have been supplied by the Regional Slaughter House to retailers. The meat was condemned and the Ministry of Food immediately informed.

#### Meat Stalls:-

No. of inspections	...	...	Nil
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#### Meat shops, stores etc:-

No. of inspections	...	...	15
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#### Places where food (other than meat) is kept and prepared for sale:-

No. of inspections	...	...	12
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## PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Apart from an epidemic of measles there has again been a remarkably low incidence of infectious disease.

The following table shows the number of cases notified during the year:-

	Total cases notified													Cases Adm. to Hosp- ital	Total Deaths
	Under 1 yr.	1-	2-	3-	4-	5-	10-	15-	20-	35-	45-	65-	All ages		
Smallpox	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Enteric Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	2	2	-
Scarlet Fever	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	-
Cerebro Spinal Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Encephalitis Lethargica	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Erysepilas	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pneumonia	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	4
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles	-	5	5	5	7	48	5	1	3	1	-	1	81	-	-
Whooping Cough	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

TUBERCULOSIS

Particulars of new cases of tuberculosis and of deaths from the disease during 1940 were as follows:-

Age Groups	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
35-	3	-	-	-	3	-	-	-
45-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
55-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
65-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
All ages	5	-	-	1	4	-	-	-

All the fatal cases had been previously notified.



## EVACUATION

At the beginning of 1940 there were only 35 children billeted in Oadby, the majority of those who had originally been evacuated to the district at the beginning of the war having returned to their homes.

Later in the year further evacuation took place and in connection with the evacuation scheme "The Wayside", Oadby was taken over by the County Maternity and Child Welfare Committee as an emergency maternity home. Close liaison is maintained between the Urban District and the County Authority and expectant mothers from London and the coastal towns are billeted in Oadby both before and after confinement at the maternity home. Up to the end of December 1940, 183 expectant mothers had been admitted to "The Wayside" and 148 babies had been born. There have been no infant or maternal deaths.

In December 1940 the following were the numbers of evacuees billeted in the area:-

No. of children under 5	50
No. of school children	25
No. of expectant mothers	15
Other persons	70

In conclusion I wish to thank the Committee and the Officers of the Urban District for their willing support during a busy and eventful year.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

Yours obedient Servant,

ALEC E. MARTIN.

Medical Officer of Health.